

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of)
YAMADA et al.)
Application Number: To be Assigned)
Filed: Concurrently Herewith)
For: MASS SPECTROMETER)
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. NITT.0160)

Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

**REQUEST FOR PRIORITY
UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119
AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

Sir:

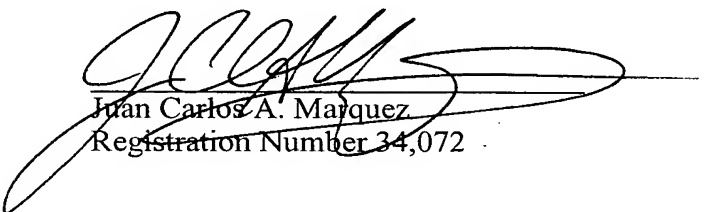
In the matter of the above-captioned application for a United States patent, notice is hereby given that the Applicant claims the priority date of November 8, 2002, the filing date of the corresponding Japanese patent application 2002-324684.

A certified copy of Japanese patent application 2002-324684 will submitted as soon as it is received from Applicant. Acknowledgment of receipt of the certified copy is respectfully requested in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher
Registration Number 24,344

REED SMITH LLP
3110 Fairview Park Drive
Suite 1400
Falls Church, Virginia 22042
(703) 641-4200
November 4, 2003



Juan Carlos A. Marquez
Registration Number 34,072